

From: FHoot@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 2:33am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Your Honorable Kollar-Kotally,

I thank you for your time in reviewing my comments concerning the proposed final judgment against Microsoft.

I have worked in the heart of "Silicon Valley"; for over twenty years and have seen first-hand Microsoft's spectacular growth and remarkable contributions to the computing world. I have also experienced firsthand how a monopolistic corporation's anticompetitive behavior has caused inflated software pricing.

I encourage you to find at a proper ruling that would accomplish the following:

Prevent future intimidation in our free market not only by Microsoft but any other company by providing some type of enforcement policy that would truly work. I realize that this would be an extremely difficult task, but I have confidence in our American system.

Design a proper punitive award that would reimburse everyone who has paid inflated pricing. Proof of purchase of products and licensing should be required in order to receive payment for the portion of the purchase price that is determined to be over and beyond what the competitive costs should have been. I strongly urge you to prevent a "cash grab" by the State governments and deny all such awards. If a state has purchased software, they should receive the same reimbursement of costs as any individual or corporation. Such a move would allow the monies returned to be put back into the economy by investments and additional jobs.

Best Regards,

Fred Hoot
San Jose, CA

fhoot@aol.com
www.fredhoot.com

CC: microsoftcomments@doj.ca.gov@inetgw.msjudgmentlett...